

**Weekly Report to the Regional Administrator
for the week ending June 30, 2017**

Air and Radiation Division

Text: EPA Issuing a Notice and Finding of Violation to Hydrite Chemical Co., Cottage Grove, Wisconsin: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 5 will be issuing a Notice and Finding of Violation to Hydrite Chemical Co. Hydrite is violating the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for Off-Site Waste and Recovery Operations, at 40 C.F.R. Part 63, Subpart DD; the NESHAP for Miscellaneous Organic Chemical Production and Processes at 40 C.F.R. Part 63, Subpart FFFF; the NESHAP for Organic Liquids Distribution (Non-Gasoline) at 40 C.F.R. Part 63, Subpart EEEE; and its federally enforceable construction and operation permits at the facility located at 114 N Main Street, Cottage Grove, Wisconsin. Specifically, since 2007, Hydrite has been operating as a major source of Hazardous Air Pollutant, and has failed to attempt to comply with Subpart EEEE and Subpart FFFF. These violations were discovered on an inspection performed by EPA Region 5 on April 3, 2017.

EPA Issues Finding of Violation to Kremers Urban Pharmaceuticals Inc.: A Finding of Violation (FOV) is being issued to Kremers Urban Pharmaceuticals Inc. (Kremers), a pharmaceutical manufacturing plant located in Seymour, Indiana, for alleged violations of the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for Pharmaceuticals Production 40 C.F.R. Part 63, Subpart GGG, and the NESHAP for the Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional Boilers for Major Sources, 40 C.F.R. Part 63, Subpart DDDDD. Violations alleged in the FOV include, among others: failure to control process vent HAP emissions from all pharmaceutical manufacturing operations; failure to implement leak detection and repair monitoring for the application equipment used in the pharmaceutical manufacturing operation; failure to identify all points of determination for wastewater streams that required control; and failure to submit an Initial Notification for its boiler.

EPA will soon issue a Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) to Paragon Metal Fabricators in Cincinnati, Ohio. The CAFO will resolve violations of the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants Area Source Standards for Nine Metal Fabrication and Finishing Source Categories (40 C.F.R. Part 63, Subpart XXXXXX) and permitting provisions in the Ohio State Implementation Plan (Ohio SIP) alleged in a December 23, 2015 Notice of Violation and Finding of Violation (NOV/FOV). Specifically, EPA alleged Paragon violated Subpart XXXXXX, by failing to submit notifications and perform required monitoring. Paragon violated the Ohio SIP by failing to obtain a permit to install and operate prior to constructing an air emissions source. Since issuance of the NOV/FOV, and during the negotiations of the CAFO, the company has returned to compliance.

The CAFO requires Paragon pay a Civil Penalty of \$2,250 and complete a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) valued at \$13,300. The SEP requires Paragon install new, more efficient spray coating equipment, new particulate matter control equipment to capture overspray, and convert to a non-HAP cleaning solvent. The SEP also requires Paragon to replace ninety-four (94) 40-watt fluorescent bulbs with 18 watt LED lighting.

Great Lakes National Program Office

None

Land and Chemicals Division

Public Comment Period Ends for Statement of Basis addressing the Former Carboline Company, Xenia, Ohio Facility

Key Message: Public Comment Period Ends on June 30, 2017 for a RCRA Corrective Action Statement of Basis Addressing contamination at Former Carboline Company.

Highlights of the proposed plan include:

Establish institutional controls at the former Carboline facility to limit current and future land uses to those consistent with industrial or commercial activities and protect construction workers from exposure to contaminated subsurface soils at two areas of the Facility.

Provide financial assurance to ensure remedies are implemented and maintained.

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency is seeking public comments on proposed work at the Former Carboline Company facility for the control of environmental concerns at the plant site. The Corrective Action program in LCD has proposed a series of actions to assure that human health is protected at the Former Carboline Company facility. The Agency's comment period runs from May 30 to June 30, 2017. Details of the proposed cleanup plan can be viewed on-line at <https://www.epa.gov/oh/former-carboline-company-xenia-ohio>.

Cross-Division Meeting to Coordinate Work at Olin Corporation, East Alton, Illinois

Key Message: Representatives of LCD, OECA, and ARD met on June 22, 2017 to establish lines of contact and coordinate efforts in addressing lead concerns at the Olin Winchester facility in East Alton, IL.

Site has been in operation since 1892 and has a long history with RCRA and Air programs, including the requirement to conduct a corrective action under RCRA at the site.

Future work planned from LCD will include ecological risk assessment and residential sampling for lead.

General Motors LLC Implements Remaining Corrective Measures at GM Lordstown Facilities Complex - Lordstown, Ohio

Key Message: General Motors Company (GM) will implement remaining corrective measures to address soil contamination at the GM Lordstown Facilities Complex, Lordstown, Ohio.

Pending corrective measures at the GM Lordstown site consist of removal of contaminated soils at the AOI 13 area, where access was previously unavailable due to facility operations.

On June 19, 2017, General Motors LLC (GM) initiated corrective measures at a truck unload containment area known as Area of Interest (AOI) 13, located within the GM Lordstown Facilities complex in Ohio. These are measures that remain to be implemented under a 2007 EPA Final Decision, consisting of excavation of up to 200 tons of soil contamination associated with historical solvent releases in the AOI 13 area. Due to limited access, the Final Order allowed for implementation of these measures during future

maintenance activities for that area. These measures are designed to ensure that residual soil contamination will not pose unacceptable risks in the absence of pavement or other engineering control in this area. No additional corrective action remains to be completed at the site with the exception of implementation of institutional controls and operation and maintenance related to dust control for manganese in soils. GM is expected to complete implementation of the measures and submit a Final Report by October 2017.

Figure 1 - Pre-Excavation Conditions - GM Lordstown

Figure 2 - Preparing for Mobilization – GM Lordstown

Pesticides and Toxics Compliance Section Advises U.S. Customs and Border Protection in Chicago to Deny the Entry of a Pesticide Import Shipment from China - Enforcement Confidential - For Internal Use Only

Key Message: U.S. CBP in Chicago, IL was provided a recommendation from Region 5 to deny entry and refuse delivery to the importer a grossly misbranded pesticide device.

The pesticidal device being imported from China was grossly misbranded as delineated under FIFRA. The device was produced in an unregistered establishment in China and was being imported with out a label or any labeling.

The import shipment consisted of 12 / 100-count cartons of “Solar Sunflower Rodent Repeller” intended for mitigating moles and other rodents.

The Broker-filer assisting on this violative import shipment advised that shipment of illegitimate and misbranded pesticidal devices would be exported back to China (country of Origin)

On June 27, 2017, U.S. EPA (PTCS) informed the U.S. Customs and Border Protection in Chicago, Illinois that a shipment containing 12 / 100-count cartons of pesticidal devices, should be denied entry into the United States and refused delivery to the importer of record. The importer of record is Winston Marketing located in Elk Grove Village, Illinois. The unlawful pesticide was produced in China. The import shipment of “Solar Sunflower Rodent Repeller” was determined by U.S. EPA to be a misbranded pesticide device as it was not labeled in accordance with the provisions of FIFRA; in addition, it was not produced in an EPA Registered Establishment.

FIFRA provides that it is unlawful to distribute or sell any pesticidal device that is misbranded. The importation and further distribution of misbranded pesticidal devices in the U.S. is unlawful under the Federal Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), Section 12(a)(1)(F), 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(F). Device labels distributed without proper labeling could compromise the ability of an end-user to properly and safely use these types of products or fail to adhere to any precautionary statements for the proper use of them. On June 28, 2017, the importer of record informed PTCS that they planned to export the pesticide product back to the country of origin.

UPCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS

JULY

U.S. Steel Gary Works Open House

This is an external meeting with an LCD employee representing EPA as a panelist.

Requesting organization: U.S. Steel

Date: 7/20/2017

Location: Gary, IN

Press coverage: Yes

U.S. Steel Gary Works representatives and EPA LCD staff will be available on July 20, 2017 to provide information and update those interested in the status of the RCRA corrective action program at Gary Works. The primary topic addressed will be the results for the Buffer Zone-North area investigations. This area is significant in that it borders the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore (Lakeshore) and could become incorporated into the Lakeshore.

Contact: Tamara Ohl, (312) 886-0991, Remediation and Reuse Branch

AUGUST

EPA Webinar: Tribal Community-Based Social Marketing Training Guide - Strategies to Promote Sustainable Behaviors

This is an external meeting with an LCD employee representing EPA as a moderator.

Requesting organization: LCD

Date: 8/2/2017

Location: Chicago, IL

Press coverage: No

The Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa partnered with the U.S. EPA Region 5 to create a Tribal CBSM Training Guide. The guide provides an overview of how to use the CBSM process to increase sustainable behaviors in tribal communities. This webinar will present how the Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College used this approach to increase its campus recycling rate by 41%, how to use the Tribal CBSM Training Guide, and how tribes can receive peer mentoring to develop their own CBSM projects. CBSM combines marketing techniques with community engagement and has proven to be far more effective in leading to sustainable behaviors than information dissemination alone.

Contact: Dolly Tong, (312) 886-1019, Materials Management Branch

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Office of Public Affairs

http://qctimes.com/news/opinion/mailbag/letter-stand-with-epa/article_d1bd2417-0a0e-5f36-89cc-a1e9e20b4f48.html

Letter: Stand with EPA

As a social worker charged with practicing environmental justice, I consider the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) a vital instrument in maintaining the clean air, water and land upon which the Mississippi River Valley thrives.

Thanks to the authority and funding given to the EPA, 11 of the 24 Superfund sites identified by the National Priorities List (NPL) 2017 as being so polluted with hazardous contaminants as to be a danger to humans, animals and ecosystems, have now been cleaned up and restored to a habitable state.

U.S. Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, as someone who calls himself an “outspoken advocate” for renewable and alternative energy and the “father” of the Wind Energy Incentives Act of 1992 , I call upon you to stand up to President Trump’s dangerous budget that would effectively shut down the EPA with its 31 percent cut in funding.

I ask you to set yourself apart from those who attack the agency that has kept our air and water clean. We have the benefit of hindsight to know that without the EPA, companies will place profit over all else - simply look to our history for all the evidence you need.

It certainly doesn’t require defunding or termination to foster collaboration for a thriving and clean community and, ultimately, planet.

Chelsea M. Haley

Davenport

<http://wtov9.com/news/local/vapor-intrusion-study-being-done-in-bellaire>

Vapor intrusion study being done in Bellaire

by Kate Davison

Tuesday, June 20th 2017

Share Video

BELMONT COUNTY, Ohio — Federal, state and local health department officials are teaming up to complete a vapor intrusion study in Bellaire.

Investigators are seeking permission from some Bellaire homeowners for testing of volatile organic compounds PCE and TCA derived from a solvent once used in dry cleaning.

Unacceptable levels of the two compounds were confirmed at Bellaire's UMW Union Hall.

ADVERTISING

The discovery prompted UMW officials to immediately - and permanently - close the doors to the building.

"We're labor union," said Mike Caputo, vice president of United Mine Works Association, District 31. "We profess health and safety in all work places and we certainly wouldn't subject our staff to anything that could have potential harm to them. "

The investigation is taking place in Bellaire's downtown. The area consists of a mix of commercial buildings, churches, two schools, and family residences.

Patricia Coe intends to comply with permission for testing.

"I'm 47, and I shouldn't be having asthma at this age," she said.

Meanwhile, public health officials say their vapor intrusion investigation will take place at a later date.

If you were not contacted Tuesday, there are permission forms available at the Bellaire Administration Building or online at the EPA website.

http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/lake/indiana-dunes-beaches-are-ready-for-summer/article_85ab3a02-d6f4-5aec-b2c3-0d07e17cea52.html

Indiana Dunes beaches are ready for summer

Sarah Reese sarah.reese@nwi.com, 219-933-3351

Beaches at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and Indiana Dunes State Park have been readied for summer, and continued testing after an April chemical spill in a Lake Michigan tributary indicates the water is safe, a National Park Service spokesman said.

The park service began working with EPA to establish a long-term monitoring program after U.S. Steel's Midwest Plant spilled 298 pounds of hexavalent chromium into the Burns Waterway near Lake Michigan in April.

The spill was about 584 times the daily maximum limit allowed under state permitting laws, Indiana Department of Environmental Management documents show.

EPA said in a June news release that water testing found "no hexavalent chromium impacts to the Burns Waterway or Lake Michigan." The park service will continue to test waters once a week through Aug. 30, National Lakeshore Supervisory Park Ranger Bruce Rowe said.

Preparations for summer included cleaning up about 17 miles of beaches, placing buoys in the water to mark swim beaches, erecting lifeguards stands and moving tons of sand that covered parking lots and walkways during the off-season, Rowe said. The West Beach bathhouse and restroom facilities at Kemil, Porter, Lakeview and Dunbar beaches also were opened.

The park service plans to reopen access to the beach at Mount Baldy later this summer. The Mount Baldy area has been closed since a then-6-year-old boy was swallowed by sand in a freak accident in 2013. The boy survived.

Extensive testing found the beach to be safe, and the park service plans to open it after work on an access trail is completed, according to a news release. The Mount Baldy dune will remain closed, with the exception of ranger-led tours.

For the first time in decades, the number of lifeguards at Indiana Dunes State Park has been increased. Swimming is allowed only when lifeguards are on duty, the release said.

Swimming will be permitted seven days a week at the eastern and western portions of the beach.

In past years, swimming was allowed only on the western section during weekdays.

There will be a family-friendly fireworks program June 29 at Indiana Dunes State Park and a sand sculpture contest July 8.

West Beach visitors can try out kayaks and paddleboards in Lake Michigan at 1 p.m. Fridays during the free Beach Fun Friday program, which will be led by park staff. After sunset, visitors will be invited to gather around a beach campfire to enjoy stories and roast marshmallows. The program runs through Sept. 1.

<http://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2017/06/17/shift-dnr-says-no-longer-operate-major-venue-state-fair/405481001/>

Wisconsin DNR says it will no longer operate major venue at the State Fair

Paul A. Smith and Lee Bergquist , Milwaukee Published 3:38 p.m. CT June 17, 2017 | Updated 17 hours ago

In a move that effectively ends a seven-decades-old tradition of public exhibition that attracted hundreds of thousands of visitors annually, the Department of Natural Resources will no longer operate a major venue at the Wisconsin State Fair in West Allis.

DNR employees were told of the changes in a message on Thursday, when top officials said the agency's spot at the fair would now be managed by fair authorities and would be renamed "Exploratory Park."

Effective this year, the DNR will no longer offer fisheries, wildlife or environmental management booths, casting clinics, archery, a children's nature play area, Smokey's Schoolhouse and a number of other attractions.

It will continue to provide information only on state parks and its Natural Heritage Conservation (formerly Endangered Resources) programs.

The DNR had provided a major exhibit on a 2-acre site at State Fair Park since 1948, Wisconsin's Centennial.

In a statement, DNR spokesman Jim Dick said the agency's presence at the fair would focus on the state park system, state forests and state natural areas, which he described as "places we can promote as premier destinations for outdoor activities."

"This is an opportunity to educate visitors, many from urban areas, on what recreational locations and activities are available not far from home," Dick said.

News of the changes shocked many in the Wisconsin conservation community, including those closely associated with the DNR's State Fair exhibit.

"Seventy years of tradition, gone," said Doug Hoskins of Muskego, a retired DNR warden supervisor who has helped manage the exhibit since 2000.

Hoskins estimated the agency would maintain only about 2% of its former presence at the fair. At Saturday's board meeting of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, the state's largest conservation organization, reaction to the DNR's plan was "just dismay," said George Meyer, former DNR secretary and current WWF executive director.

"We thought the DNR was trying to reach out and get more kids into hunting and fishing," Meyer said. "And if you ever wanted to reach an urban population on natural resources issues, the fair was an ideal place to do it."

Hoskins said surveys conducted by the State Fair and DNR estimated 300,000 people visited the DNR exhibit annually.

The DNR's decision runs counter to investments made and plans it had for the State Fair as recently as three years ago.

In 2014, the agency incurred substantial expense to remove 19 ash trees at the site and replant the area with hundreds of small trees and shrubs.

At the June 2014 meeting of the Natural Resources Board, DNR Secretary Cathy Stepp addressed the department's decision to stay ahead of invasive diseases and use the State Fair location for educational purposes.

"Both issues — controlling the invasive plants and keeping the remaining ash trees alive — will require an ongoing investment of resources," Stepp said in a summary document. "DNR is using the issues on this very visible and much-loved site to raise awareness about invasive species."

Events of last week revealed a change in DNR strategy. They also showed poor communication, planning and coordination within the agency.

Before DNR employees were notified last week, workers at the park had cleaned out the buildings used for decades by the agency. Some personal effects as well educational materials were removed and possibly discarded.

"We were supposed to be kept abreast of any changes," Hoskins said. "Nothing was said to us before it was too late."

The move is the latest in what some see as a larger effort to limit the public outreach of the DNR. In his 2017-'19 budget, Gov. Scott Walker proposed eliminating Wisconsin Natural Resources magazine, which has more than 80,000 subscribers.

The agency said the magazine no longer fit into the core mission of the DNR.

When Walker's budget revealed plans to cease publication, critics said it was another example of the administration's efforts to weaken the DNR.

Former editors said DNR leaders under Walker have wanted to avoid hot-button issues such as climate change and environmental regulation.

Recently, the Legislature's budget committee rejected Walker's plan to eliminate the magazine, but cut it back from six issues a year to four.

While details are still being worked out, Dick said the agency's State Fair presence, in terms of manpower, would be sharply curtailed and be "far less" than the 100 to 200 people who traditionally worked more than 3,600 hours at the fair.

But many of those employees willingly volunteered their time to interact with the public at the fair, Hoskins said.

Meyer said the DNR's move was bad from both a business and natural resource management perspective.

"Where else can the DNR have face-to-face interaction and get information out to 300,000 people in 11 days?" Meyer said. "These are future voters, future license buyers, future employees and people who can support the department in its programs."

"This will have a long-term negative effect on citizens' knowledge and support for natural resources in the state," Meyer said.

<http://michiganradio.org/post/deq-scraps-line-5-safety-report>

DEQ scraps Line 5 safety report

By RICK PLUTA • 11 HOURS AGO

The state of Michigan has scrapped a risk study on Enbridge's Line 5 and fired the contractor just a week before a first draft of the report was to be released.

The state Department of Environmental Quality said a conflict of interest on the part of one of the researchers called the independence of the study into question.

The DEQ's Melody Kindraka says the researcher was working simultaneously on the Line 5 study and a project for Enbridge. The study was supposed to analyze the risks posed by the oil and gas pipeline that runs beneath the Straits of Mackinac. She says it's not clear how this will effect decisions on the future of Line 5.

"The independence and the integrity of this report is of the utmost importance to us, and that is why we wanted to move forward with the termination, so there would be not be any appearance of conflict," she said. "We will have to re-assess our plans moving forward."

Kindraka says there's no decision yet on whether to re-big the project. She says that will likely wait until after the release next week of a draft report on alternatives to Line 5 and a public comment period.

Environmental groups generally applauded the state for acting on the potential conflict, but said that should not delay a decision on Line 5 by a state commission.

“There’s enough to say to me that this pipeline needs to be shut down until we can actually prove that it’s safe,” said Lisa Wozniak of Clean Water Action. “We cannot wait too much longer about the fate of Enbridge’s Line 5 pipeline.”

Chris Kolb of the Michigan Environmental Council says the state should still release the draft report.

“This will enable Michigan residents to trust that the contract was terminated only because of the conflict of interest, and not because of anything in the report,” he said.

But Kindraka says the report remains the property of the contractor, Det Norske Veritas. That’s because the state terminated the contract before the report was turned over to the state. She also said it’s not known if the state owes the contractor any money.

Enbridge also released a statement:

"Enbridge is disappointed to learn of these developments with one of the State’s independent contractors. It is important this process is independent and without conflict. We support the State’s actions. We, too, are investigating what may have happened in the contracting process. "

DISCLOSURE: Enbridge Energy is a financial supporter of Michigan Radio.

<http://michiganradio.org/post/toxic-town-michigans-most-polluted-zip-code>

Toxic Town: Michigan's most polluted zip code

By BILL KUBOTA & DETROIT JOURNALISM COOPERATIVE • 11 HOURS AGO

Usually, with a new playground, library or community center comes a dedication ceremony with speeches by local leaders. It might even make front page news.

But an air monitoring station? Yes, an air monitoring station installed in a part of Southwest Detroit is cause for celebration.

In Boynton, a predominately African American neighborhood, now better known for its zip code, 48217, has been deemed the most toxic place in Michigan.

Professor Paul Mohai of the University of Michigan’s School of Natural Resources and Environment looked at data from the Environmental Protection Agency’s Toxic Release Inventory and charted the most polluted areas on a map.

Mohai points it out on his computer screen, “You can definitely see ground zero so to speak and where that hotspot is.” In the middle of the eight most polluted zip codes in the Detroit area sits 48217.

The air monitor installed by the state’s Department of Environmental Quality could help better understand just what, and how many different pollutants the people living there are breathing.

Combine some steel mills, an oil refinery, a wastewater treatment facility, a coal burning power plant operating for decades and a constant parade of trucks, the residents of 48217 believe they have very serious cause for concern.

Getting the air monitor in place was a struggle. It came only after an effort led by three women, environmental activists who took it upon themselves to study the law, learn the science and navigate the politics to try to make their neighborhood a better place to live.

“We have a toxic soup down here,” says Theresa Landrum, one of the activists, who’s lived in the area all her life. “What is the byproduct of all these chemicals mixing in the air? If they find out one is toxic, then they find out two is toxic, when you combine two toxic things, isn’t that a toxic monster?”

It should be noted that company operating the oil refinery says it causes only three percent of the air emissions problems in 48217. Meanwhile, the coal burning power plant is slated to close by 2023 as part of that company’s effort to reduce its carbon footprint and says it has continued reduce toxic emissions in recent years.

<https://m.clevescene.com/scene-and-heard/archives/2017/06/21/government-report-says-great-lakes-in-bad-condition-lake-erie-worst-of-the-bunch>

Government Report Says Great Lakes in Bad Condition, Lake Erie Worst of the Bunch

by Vince Grzegorek

June 21, 2017 at 10:26 AM

The relative health of the Great Lakes, or lack thereof, is no secret, but a new report from the EPA and its Canadian counterpart puts a fine point on the perilous situation the largest collective body of freshwater in the world is in.

According to the State of the Great Lakes 2017 Highlights Report, agricultural runoff and pollution, algal blooms and the overall loss of habitat plague all five lakes, but Lake Erie in particular. The report designated the fair shores of Lake Erie the worst and in deteriorating shape.

That shouldn't come as a surprise residents of Ohio and Michigan, who have seen the effects firsthand, most notably in the 2014 massive algal bloom that saw Toledo shut down its water supply to 500,000 people. Michigan's environmental agency declared its portion of the Erie shoreline "impaired," while the Ohio EPA declined to issue such a designation, even though officials in Lucas County have pleaded for such action that would trigger regulations. The state has argued those would be harmful and unneeded restrictions that would impair voluntary incentives.

The Feds come down with Ohio on this one — they declined to designate the lake impaired in May — despite opposition from Senators Sherrod Brown and Rob Portman — and Trump's budget plans put the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, which funds quality oversight, runoff mitigation, habitat preservation and more, directly in its crosshairs. Which is all the more weird when the EPA is saying the Great Lakes need dire help.

"As the report makes clear, progress is being made—but serious threats remain," National Wildlife Federation scientist Michael Murray said in a statement. "Lake Erie's deteriorating health serves as a warning that public officials on both sides of the border cannot let their guards down. The millions of people who rely on the Great Lakes for their drinking water, health, jobs and way of life are counting on public officials to continue to make Great Lakes restoration and protection a top priority."

<http://michiganradio.org/post/what-epa-budget-cuts-could-mean-low-income-and-minority-communities>

What EPA budget cuts could mean for low-income and minority communities

By JULIE GRANT • 4 HOURS AGO

Related Program:

The EPA's Office of Environmental Justice is meant to defend communities that face a disproportionate share of the effects of pollution. But that office's funding could be cut entirely in the 2018 budget.

When President Trump's proposed budget cut funding for environmental justice work at the EPA, Mustafa Ali took a stand. Twenty-four years after helping create and lead the EPA's environmental justice office, he resigned in March in protest.

In an interview with Vice Magazine, Ali said, “I needed to stand up, and say the choices, and the proposed choices that were being made, that they would not be beneficial to the communities I’ve dedicated my life to.”

Others in Ali's line of work are also concerned about what's to come.

“It would be a shame to get rid of the one office that is in touch with people, that understands what the potential burdens are of our bad environmental decisions,” says Lisa Garcia of the non-profit law organization, EarthJustice.

During the Obama administration, Garcia was Senior Advisor to the Administrator for Environmental Justice at the EPA. We spoke with Garcia by Skype.

“There’s not many offices that go out into the field, one. And there’s not any other office dedicated to making sure that the agency is reaching out to communities of color, to low-income communities, to indigenous populations, other than the tribal office,” she says. “And so it’s just a huge loss in that sense, that you would lose communication with so many communities, who you’re supposed to represent. Because they can’t get on their private jets, or go to D.C. every time you have a meeting on oil, or coal, or climate.”

The EPA has been criticized for not doing enough about environmental discrimination against low-income and minority communities.

Of 300 claims of environmental discrimination since 1993, the agency made a preliminary finding of injustice in only one case. But Garcia says this discounts the successes of the environmental justice office.

She says it changed the view of nearly everyone at the EPA in more subtle ways.

“If you were a rule writer, you weren’t in the office of environmental justice, but you had to look at certain impacts to people in low-income communities and communities of color. If you were in the Office of Water, you had to begin to look at these impacts,” says Garcia. “While we were there, we developed a mapping tool called EJ Screen, so that everyone could actually begin to see the data of air and water and traffic, and also the demographic information of an area.”

Garcia says it’s a slow process for the few people in the environmental justice office to change what she calls the DNA of the thousands of people throughout the agency to consider income, race and other community factors when making decisions. Now, she says, with the expected

budget cuts to environmental justice at EPA, it will take outside groups, like hers, to keep moving this agenda forward.

The EPA did not respond to our request for an interview.

<http://www.wpr.org/ozone-study-along-lake-michigan-seeks-answers-pollutant-drift>

Ozone Study Along Lake Michigan Seeks Answers To Pollutant Drift

Scientists From Several Agencies Take To Air And Water

Wednesday, June 21, 2017, 10:45am

By Chuck Quirnbach

High levels of the air pollutant ozone still plague a few Wisconsin counties along the Lake Michigan shoreline. Over the past month, a team of scientists has been taking to the sky and water to better map the origin of some of the chemicals that create the harmful ozone in the lower atmosphere .

Ozone advisory health alerts aren't as common as they used to be. Cars and industrial smokestacks, two of the longtime sources of pollution that leads to the formation of ozone on sunny days, are generally cleaner.

But on June 2 and 11, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources announced ozone levels in five counties along Lake Michigan had entered an "orange" category. That meant the air those days was unhealthy for sensitive groups like older adults, children and people with respiratory ailments.

It's no surprise to scientist Brad Pierce of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration that ozone remains a concern along the western shore of the lake. He said this time of year, wind often brings cooler air off the water to collide with warmer air over the land.

"What that does is it leads to transport of pollutants from along the shore — Chicago, Milwaukee and various point sources along the way. They tend to narrow themselves and converge right along the lakeshore," said Pierce, lead researcher on this year's effort based at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Pierce said ground monitors show ozone readings right along the lake are higher than just a few miles inland.

At least one major study in the 1990s looked into the issue, including whether dirty air from Chicago and Gary, Indiana, was causing most of the pollution concern in Wisconsin.

But Pierce believes another look is justified because monitoring technology has improved. He also said various businesses that find it tougher to expand when there's a local ozone problem have asked for more measurements.

Some of the readings are being taken miles in the air, including from a turbo-prop plane owned by NASA. The aircraft has made several trips from Truax Field in Madison to the skies over Lake Michigan.

A sophisticated instrument on board called Geo-TASO is trying to create a two-dimensional map of plumes of ozone and another chemical, nitrogen dioxide, explained NASA scientist Jay Al-Saadi.

"We're trying to find what is the most efficient bang for the buck, really. What types of emissions are contributing to poor air quality in particular areas, and under what conditions?" Al-Saadi said.

The NOAA research vessel at Sheboygan Harbor. Chuck Quirmbach/WPR

Another plane based at Sheboygan is flying closer to the ground and taking other measurements.

The ozone study also makes use of a NOAA research boat that's been taking U.S. Environmental Protection Agency scientists up and down the lake.

Holes in the mast allow in air that goes to computers below deck for analyzing, and EPA researcher David Williams said there's a pattern.

"In the morning, you'll see higher numbers of the nitrogen compound, and then the ozone starts forming and converts that nitrogen compound into ozone, so we get higher ozone measurements in the afternoon," he said. "Typically, we'll go out early afternoon to late afternoon and capture that conversion."

Williams added other equipment on the boat helps track the movement of air pollution from cities like Chicago and Milwaukee to northeastern Wisconsin.

"We're trying to find what is the most efficient bang for the buck, really. What types of emissions are contributing to poor air quality in particular areas, and under what conditions?" Al-Saadi said.

Meanwhile in Sheboygan, UW-Madison Space Science and Engineering Center researcher Tim Wagner has spent a lot of the last month in a trailer filled with a bank of computer screens and instruments that measure wind, temperature and air particles. He's looking at how the conditions might affect the pollutants.

"With that observation and information, we can use that to create better models to better forecast when the bad air days are going to be. We can narrow down where we need to do better pollution control, " Wagner said.

The ozone research project comes as President Donald Trump's EPA has given states another year to comply with tougher ozone limits approved by former President Barack Obama. The scientists emphasize they're not policy-makers, and any decisions about whether their findings will lead to changes in ozone laws is up to politicians and agency administrators.

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News Duluth, Minnesota 55802 Peter Passi
Duluth News Tribune
(218) 723-5295 customer support <http://www.duluthnewstribune.com>
<http://www.duluthnewstribune.com>

Massive cleanup plan emerging for U.S. Steel site in Duluth
Duluth Minnesota 424 W. First St. 55802

Office of Regional Administrator

Update for Rep. Dingell on McLouth Site: On June 27, Congressional and SFD staff held a conference call with Rep. Dingell's office to provide a requested update on the McLouth site in Trenton, Michigan.

Informed IN Delegation of EPA Resuming Cleanup at the Jacobsville Superfund Site: On June 26, Congressional staff let the Indiana delegation know that EPA resumed cleanup at the Jacobsville Superfund Site in Evansville, Indiana.

Informed MI Delegation Velsicol Superfund Site Work Set to Resume: On June 26, Congressional staff informed the Michigan delegation that soil cleanup is set to begin at Velsicol Superfund site in St. Louis, Michigan.

Updated IN Delegation of Cleanup Metrics for USS Lead Superfund Site: On June 22, Congressional staff updated the Indiana delegation on updated cleanup metrics for USS Lead Superfund Site in East Chicago, IN.

Rep. Nolan Conference Call Regarding PolyMet/NorthMet: On June 28, Congressional, OECA and WD staff participated in a conference call hosted by Rep. Nolan and provided an update on EPA's activities regarding the CWA Sections 402 and 404 permitting processes for the NorthMet project.

Employee Training on Transgender and Gender non-Conforming Policy: On June, 27, EPA HQ Office of Human Resources and the Office of Civil Rights hosted a training to provide a policy overview and awareness for all EPA employees on EPA Order 1000.31B, Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Employees. This order clarifies protections for EPA employees and applicants who are transgender and/or gender non-conforming.

LGBT R5 Event: On June 29, in celebration of LGBT pride month, R5 hosted an event that was a meet and greet to socialize with some of the original GLOBE members. Employees were provided with literature which covered various LGBT information for Illinois and more.

Office of Regional Counsel

The United States District Court for the District of Minnesota enters a Consent Decree in the matter of Unites States and State of Minnesota vs. Mesabi Nugget Delaware, LLC (Civil Action No. 0:17-cv-1606) to resolve alleged Clean Air Act violations.

On June 26, 2017, the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota entered a consent decree resolving Clear Air Act violations alleged against Mesabi Nugget Delaware, LLC ("Mesabi Nugget"). Mesabi Nugget is an iron nugget production facility in northeastern Minnesota. Mesabi Nugget is the first facility of its kind to develop a direct-reduction process to make a 97% pure, metallic iron nugget suited for direct use in electric arc furnaces from iron ore concentrate. Production of nuggets at the Mesabi Nugget plant located near Hoyt Lakes, Minnesota, began in late 2009 with first shipments to Steel Dynamic's Flat Roll Division in February 2010. The facility is not currently operating, due to market conditions.

Mesabi Nugget was permitted to conduct initial performance tests after a designated production level of iron nuggets was achieved. The production level was reached in January 2012, after years of challenges developing this new technology. The results of the initial performance testing showed numerous failed stack tests (i.e., exceedances of Title V permit limits) for several pollutants, including mercury. The consent decree includes the following injunctive relief: (1) use of mercury sorbent trap monitoring unit for continuous emission monitoring; (2) development and use of Preventative Maintenance and Operation Plans for multiple process units; (3) Best Available Control Technology Analysis for multiple pollutants and permit amendment requirements; and (4) performance testing

requirements for various emission units; and (5) ceasing the operation of a coal pulverizing unit. The facility also agreed to pay a civil penalty of \$150,000 for its violations of the CAA (\$75,000 to the United States, and \$75,000 to the State of Minnesota). Contact: James Morris, ORC, 312-886-6632; Molly Smith, ARD, 312-353-3887; Patrick Miller, ARD, 312-886-4044.

Region 5 Resolves CAA Violations by Integrity Biofuels LLC, of Morristown, Indiana

On June 23, 2017, Region 5 filed a Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) commencing and concluding an administrative matter under Section 113 of the Clean Air Act (CAA) with Integrity Biofuels, LLC (Integrity), of Morristown, Indiana, a company that manufactures biofuel. The CAFO alleges that from June 24, 2016 through June 24, 2017, Integrity operated its Facility, including valves and other components, by failing to control volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in violation of the requirements found in the National Standards for Performance for New Stationary Sources (NSPS); 40 C.F.R §§ 60.480a through 60.489a (Subpart VVa); Standards of Performance for facilities that have VOC Emissions From SOCMI Distillation Operations at 40 C.F.R. §§ 60.660 through 60.668 (Subpart NNN); and Standards of Performance for VOC Emissions From SOCMI Reactor Processes at 40 C.F.R. §§ 60.700 through 60.708 (Subpart RRR). Long-term exposure to VOCs leads to chronic diseases and cancer. At high concentrations, some VOCs are toxic.

Pursuant to the CAFO, Integrity will pay a civil penalty of \$24,130. Integrity has also entered into an Administrative Compliance Order (ACO) with Region 5 in which Integrity will conduct a third party audit and incorporate any findings as a modification to its existing federally-enforceable Title V CAA permit. Contact: Nicole Cantello, ORC, 312-886-2870 and Cody Yarborough, ARD, 312-886-9137.

United States Files CAA Complaint and Lodges Proposed Consent Decree with Lima Refining Company

On June 22, 2017, the United States filed a complaint and lodged a proposed consent decree in the Northern District of Ohio, Western Division, to resolve alleged violations with Lima Refining Company (LRC). LRC, a Husky Energy Inc. subsidiary, owns and operates a petroleum refinery at 1150 South Metcalf Street, Lima, Allen County, Ohio (the Refinery). On November 20, 2007, The Premcor Refining Group Inc., the owner and operator of the Refinery at that time, entered into a Consent Decree under the Clean Air Act with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of Ohio, among other parties (CD). LRC became the owner and operator of the Refinery around the time the 2007 CD was lodged. Since that time, LRC has been liable for the Refinery's compliance with the CD, its permits, and the Clean Air Act and its implementing regulations.

EPA identified violations of the 2007 CD provisions and Clean Air Act provisions related to acid gas and tail gas incidents, leak detection and repair (LDAR), continuous emission monitoring systems (CEMS), excess emissions, flaring efficiency and minimization, and reporting of flaring events.

In the proposed CD, LRC has agreed to the following injunctive relief requirements.

- o Install a new sulfur recovery plant and associated turndown project to minimize SO₂ flaring during sulfur recovery plant (SRP) start up and shutdown.
- o Replace outdated SO₂, NO_x and PM controls at the catalytic cracker (FCCU) with newer technology, installation of selective catalytic reduction and a wet gas scrubber that will result in reduced emissions.
- o Flaring minimization and efficiency measures, including a 100 TPY VOC limit for all flares.
- o Enhanced leak detection and repair program that requires use of certified low leak valve technology and additional monitoring.
- o Implement an operation and maintenance plan to improve uptime of CEMS, and conduct root causes analysis and corrective action of any future excessive downtime.

As mitigation for past acid gas flaring and tail gas incidents, LRC is adding oxygen enrichment to two Claus Units in order to increase design capacity during unplanned train shutdowns to prevent acid gas flaring at an estimated cost of \$10,000,000.

EPA estimates that as a result of this settlement, LRC will reduce emissions of SO₂, VOCs, NO_x, and PM. EPA estimates that LRC will reduce SO₂ by 98 tons per year (TPY), primarily attributable to the installation of the third Claus unit, oxygen enrichment, and the turn down project at the SRP. As a result of implementing minimization and efficiency measures at the flares, EPA anticipates that LRC will reduce VOCs by 28 TPY. EPA estimates that LRC will reduce NO_x by 68 TPY, primarily through installation of controls at the FCCU, and compliance with a more stringent emission limit at the heaters and boilers. EPA estimates that LRC will also reduce PM by 30 TPY, through installation of controls at the FCCU. EPA anticipates that there will be additional, unquantifiable emissions reductions related to the controls and enhancements required by the CD.

In addition, LRC will perform a supplemental environmental project in the amount of \$1,750,000 for lead-based paint abatement, prioritizing abatement in owner-occupied low income residences with children or pregnant women near the Refinery.

EPA has calculated a \$1,000,000 cash payment for stipulated penalties and civil penalties. Of that amount, \$146,509 will be paid as a stipulated penalty to the State of Ohio for violations of the CD. Contacts: Alexandra Letuchy, Greg Gehrig, Albana Bega, and Virginia Galinsky, Air and Radiation Division, 312-886-6035, 312-886-4434,

312-353-4789, and 312-353-2089, respectively, and William Wagner and Mary McAuliffe, Office of Regional Counsel, at 312-886-4684, and 312-886-6237, respectively.

TSCA Expedited Settlement Agreement and Final Order In the Matter of Think Painting, Inc.

On June 26, 2017, EPA filed an Expedited Settlement Agreement and Final Order (Agreement) in the matter of Think Painting, Inc.. The Agreement resolves the company's failure to retain all records necessary to demonstrate compliance with the Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) Rule requirements at 40 C.F.R. Part 745. Under the terms of the Agreement, the company will pay a civil penalty of \$200 and come into compliance with the RRP Rule. Contacts: Christina Saldivar, Land and Chemicals Division, at 312-886-0755, and Mary McAuliffe, Office of Regional Counsel, at 312- 886-6237.

Region 5 Executes CWA CAFO with CountryMark Refining and Logistics LLC

On June, 21, 2017, Region 5 executed a Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) with CountryMark Refining and Logistics LLC (CountryMark). The CAFO commences and concludes an administrative proceeding against CountryMark, resolving a violation of Section 311 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 U.S.C. § 1321. CountryMark owns and operates a pipeline transporting crude oil from its Albion, Illinois gathering station to its New Harmony, Indiana booster station. On or about July 13, 2015 the CountryMark pipeline failed where the pipeline crosses the Wabash River near Grayville, Illinois, causing a release of 51.5 barrels of crude oil into the Wabash River. The pipeline failed due to fatigue cracking, likely caused by a combination of a flooding event and subsequent earth movement. The oil was discharged in quantities that may be harmful to the public health or welfare, or the environment. CountryMark completed emergency response activities on July 18, 2015, and has since taken action to prevent further oil discharges from the river crossing. The States of Indiana and Illinois were actively involved in overseeing the emergency response activities. The states do not have authority to enforce Section 311 of the CWA and have not raised objections to this federal enforcement action. CountryMark has agreed to settle the matter by paying a \$21,873 civil penalty. CountryMark installed a new river crossing at a depth-of-crossing greater than 35 feet. Contacts: Eaton Weiler, ORC, at 312-886-6041; Ellen Riley, SFD, at 312-886-9497.

Region 5 Signs CAA Section 112(r) CAFO with Cargill Meat Solutions Corporation and Swift Pork Company for plant in Beardstown, Illinois

On June 2, 2017, Region 5 signed a Consent Agreement and Final Order under Section 112(r) of the Clean Air Act with Cargill Meat Solutions Corporation and Swift Pork Company for the latter's plant in Beardstown, Illinois. The CAFO resolves the violations of Cargill Meat Solutions Corporation, the former owner and operator of the Beardstown pork processing facility for violations of the Risk Management Program regulations at 40

C.F.R. §§68.1 through 68.220. Under the CAFO, Cargill will pay an administrative penalty of \$79,165. Swift Pork Company is the current owner and operator of the facility, which employs 20 persons at the Beardstown plant. Under the CAFO, Swift certifies that it is complying fully with 40 C.F.R. Part 68 at the Beardstown facility. For any questions, contact Sherry L. Estes, Associate Regional Counsel at 312- 886-7164 or Silvia Palomo at 312-353-2172.

Resources Management Division

Title: Drinking Water Contamination in Flint, MI

Description: The OIG's objective for this assignment is to examine the circumstances of, and the EPA's response to, the contamination in the city of Flint's community water system, including the EPA's exercise of its oversight authority.

Lead: WD

Status: On October 20, 2016, OIG issued the finalized version of the Management Alert to HQ. Work on a second related report has begun and a Discussion Document which was issued to R5 and HQ on June 20, 2017.

Technical Contact: Deb Baltazar, 6-3205, WS-15J

Title: Ambient Air Monitoring Data Changes and Gaps #OPE-FY16-0009

Description: The OIG plans to determine whether selected air monitoring data in EPA's Air Quality System meet criteria established by the EPA.

Lead: ARD

Status: OIG issued a Management Alert report to OAR (with no recommendations) and is preparing a discussion document for OAQPS, and Regions 4, 5, and 9.

Technical Contact: Scott Hamilton, 3-4775, AT-18J

Title: Existing IT Property Procedures #OA-FY16-0260

Description: Region 5 requested OIG conduct a review of our IT property procedures and provide any feedback and recommendations on gaps and areas for improvement. We suggested this review focus on Region 5, and benchmark what is being done in other parts of the agency.

Lead: RMD

Status: OIG has expanded the audit scope to be agency-wide. A Discussion Draft Report was issued by OIG on May 23, 2017 with seven recommendations directed to R5. R5

provided the auditors with a written response on June 7, 2017 and discussed it with them on June 13, 2017.

Technical Contact: Ken Tindall, 6-9895, M-9J

Title: Region 5 Sexual Harassment Policies and Practices #OA-FY16-0177

Description: Based on a request from a House committee about allegations of sexual harassment in GLNPO, OIG plans to determine whether the region's policies and practices for handling sexual harassment complaints made through the Equal Employment Opportunity complaint process and human resources complaint process are consistent with established policies and meet federal requirements.

Lead: RMD

Status: OIG visited the Region August 23rd through August 26th to review files. OIG has issued two Discussion Documents that have no recommendations for any additional corrective action. The second report, issued June 20, 2017 noted that "Region 5 has adequate policies and procedures for addressing sexual harassment allegations."

Technical Contact: Amy Sanders, 3-9196, MP-10J

Title: Brownfields Revolving Loans After CA Close-out #OA-FY16-0155

Description: The OIG's fieldwork objective is to determine whether Brownfields revolving loan fund recipients are using program income to capitalize a revolving loan fund, and to loan and grant money for Brownfields remediation after the cooperative agreements are closed.

Lead: SF

Status: OIG management revised one recommendation in the Discussion Draft Document, deciding to make R5 responsible for corrective action instead of HQ as originally discussed. Superfund management on January 5, 2017 responded to the one R5 recommendation calling for a policy clarification from HQ.

Technical Contact: Joseph Dufficy, 6-1960, SE-7J

Title: Teleworking Policies and Guidance Issued by OPM #OPE-FY16-0028

Description: The OIG's objective is to determine if the agency's policies are consistent with OPM guidance, managers have received required training, and managers are aware of and have access to teleworking tools.

Lead: RMD/HC

Status: OIG expects to issue a Discussion Draft Report shortly.

Technical Contact: Amy Sanders, 3-9196, MP-10J

Title: File Server Security # OA-FY17-0138OPE-FY17-0138

Description: The OIG's objective is to examine implementation of security controls relating to the agency's file servers.

Lead: RMD/IMB

Status: OIG has requested that all regions/offices respond to their survey questions. OIG plans to begin fieldwork in late fall/early winter with R5 as part of their sample.

Technical Contact: Ken Tindall, 6-9895, M-9J

Title: Worker Protection Standards # OPE-FY17-0008

Description: OIG plans to determine whether the Office of Pesticide Programs' and the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance's processes and procedures are adequate to implement the revised WPS. OIG also plans to determine how the agency plans to collect and utilize the revised Worker Protection Standards (WPS) compliance and enforcement information to track pesticide exposure among target populations

Lead: LCD

Status: OIG met with LCD staff on April 20, 2017 to gather information.

Technical Contact: Mardi Klevs, 3-5490, LC-17J

Title: Audio Conference Line Services # OA-FY16-0275

Description: OIG plans to determine whether the EPA's oversight and use of audio conference line services are an efficient and economical way to use taxpayer funds.

Lead: RMD/AAB

Status: OIG issued a Discussion Document on April 27, 2017. OIG claims that R5 duplicated services by contracting services outside the working capital fund. R5 responded to the finding with an explanation on May 4, 2017 that indicated a savings of \$907,654 was achieved.

Technical Contact: Marc Colvin, 6-0138, MR-13J

Title: Background Investigations of Privileged Users # OA-FY17-0139

Description: The OIG's audit objectives are to determine whether the EPA completed required background investigations for contractor personnel with privileged access to EPA information

systems and completed and documented actions taken to remediate weaknesses in the agency's information security program.

Lead: RMD/IMB

Status: OIG contacted IMB staff requesting information on May 16, 2017.

Technical Contact: Ken Tindall, 6-9895, M-9J

Title: Asbestos Exposure in Schools # OPE-FY17-0012

Description: OIG plans to determine whether the EPA is performing sufficient compliance inspections of schools to reduce asbestos exposure.

Lead: LCD

Status: OIG requested R5 staff respond to their questionnaire.

Technical Contact: Mardi Klevs, 3-5490, LC-17J

Superfund Division

Weekly Report for week ending June 30, 2017 (Superfund Division)

Hot Issues

None

Accomplishments

Proposed Cleanup Plan to be Issued for Area 2 of Kalamazoo River, Allied Paper Inc./Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund Site, Allegan County, Michigan

Press Interest/Coverage: None

On July 1, 2017 EPA expects to issue the Proposed Plan for Area 2 of the Kalamazoo River at the Allied Paper Inc./Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund Site in Allegan County, Michigan. The public comment period will run from July 1 through August 30, 2017. EPA will hold a public meeting on July 25, 2017 in Otsego, Michigan to discuss the Proposed Plan and receive formal public comments. EPA's proposed remedy for the polychlorinated biphenyl contamination in Area 2 of the river is estimated to cost \$46.4 million and includes removal of the Otsego City dam, river channel realignment, excavation of soil along the river and a tributary, excavation of certain floodplain soil areas, and capping of anabranch areas that would be cut off from the main river channel following removal of the dam. Monitored natural recovery, institutional controls, and long-term monitoring are also part of the proposed cleanup plan.

Contact: Jim Saric, Remedial Project Manager, (312) 886-0992

Diane Russell, Community Involvement Coordinator, (989) 401-5507

Removal Action Completed at the Zizzo Properties Site, Kenosha, Wisconsin

Press Interest/Coverage: None

On June 29, 2017 EPA completed a removal action at the Zizzo Properties Site in Kenosha, Wisconsin. The Site had been utilized as a scrap yard by Zizzo Scrap Iron and Paper for over 30 years. Zizzo Scrap Iron operated an auto-shredder where vehicles were loaded onto a conveyor ramp and loaded into the shredder. Non-metal portions of autos (e.g. fabric, cushioning, insulation, and plastic) were ejected as "fluff"; steel was transported offsite and sold to steel manufacturers. Fluff was typically left onsite, either buried or left as waste piles along the perimeter of the property.

The owner of the property is deceased, and the property has been abandoned. Lead was detected above the industrial removal management level (RML) of 800 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg) in four out of the seven surface soil samples with the highest concentration at 1,580 mg/kg. Lead was detected above the RML in 12 out of 15 fluff samples with the highest lead concentration at 9,280 mg/kg. Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) was detected above the PCB RML of 94 mg/kg at a concentration of 101 mg/kg in the auto-shredder fluff sample collected outside the western fence near the local Boys and Girls Club. Auto-fluff, soil, and debris were excavated and removed for disposal. Confirmation samples indicated in most cases that lead and PCB cleanup levels were met. The property is now owned by the City of Kenosha, and future use is undetermined. Off-site

disposal included: 5,441 tons of auto-fluff; 962 tons of soil; 891 tons of debris; 59 tons of non-friable ACM; and 150 gallons of waste oil.

Contact: Brad Benning, On-Scene Coordinator, (312) 353-7613

Zizzo Site Before Removal Action Zizzo Site After Cleanup

Emergency Response Completed at the Lakeview Avenue Residential Mercury Spill, Lorain, Ohio

Press Interest/Coverage: None

On June 28th, 2017 EPA completed an emergency response at the Lakeview Avenue Residential Mercury Spill in Lorain, Ohio. Ohio EPA reported that the resident accidentally spilled mercury near the front porch and into the yard. EPA mobilized an Emergency and Rapid Response Services (ERRS) contractor to the Site and observed visible mercury beads in the lawn near the front porch. The resident gave the plastic bottle containing the remaining mercury to the EPA for disposal. EPA screened the interior of the residence and a neighbor's home with a Lumex Mercury Vapor Analyzer. EPA additionally screened the shoes of both residents to check for possible tracking. Lumex readings from both homes were below 100 nanograms per cubic meter (ng/m³) and all shoes screened below 350 ng/m³.

EPA screened the front yard, sidewalks, tree lawn, curb, and street. Elevated readings (>50,000 ng/m³) were detected in an area of dead grass on the tree lawn. Readings between 5,000 - 6,000 ng/m³ near the front porch, and readings of 20,000 ng/m³ along the sidewalk. ERRS removed visible mercury beads by the front porch and excavated grass and soil until levels were below 1,500 ng/m³. Additionally, a mercury vacuum was used to clean the front porch, steps, sidewalks, curb, and a portion of the street. Along the sidewalk and tree lawn, the turf was removed with a sod cutter and readings dropped to below 400 ng/m³. EPA restored the area with new topsoil, grass seed, and straw matting in the excavated areas. The property owner is responsible for maintaining the new seeded areas.

Contact: James Justice, On-Scene Coordinator, (440) 250-1744

Jason Cashmere, On-Scene Coordinator, (440) 250-1703

Mercury Beads Observed

in the Tree Lawn Area New Topsoil, Grass Seed, and

Straw Matting Following the Removal

Emergency Response Initiated at the Ford Ecoat Site, Avon Lake, Ohio

Press Interest/Coverage: The Chronicle-Telegram and Fox 8 Cleveland

On June 26, 2017 EPA initiated an emergency response at the Ford Ecoat Site in Avon Lake, Ohio. The United States Coast Guard (USCG) requested technical assistance for a National Response Center (NRC) Report #1182271 regarding a release of Ecoat Cationic Bath (ECB) solution to Lake Erie from the Ford Motor Company Ohio Assembly Plant. The solution is a mixture of two products, one of the active ingredients being dibutyltin oxide (DBTO). The

chemical alone is considered a marine pollutant, but neither the Safety Data Sheet for the overall solution nor the component containing the DBTO carries this designation. The initial spill into secondary containment was discovered by Ford facility personnel on June 24, 2017 but was believed to be stable. Further inspection in the morning of June 25 discovered a drop in water level in the secondary containment. Further inspection found the diluted ECB discharging into the storm sewer via a valve that was thought to be closed. Inspection of the sewer line and Lake Erie confirmed the release.

Ford contacted resources to begin containment and recovery and notified the NRC the evening of June 25, 2017. Avon Lake Fire and Police and USCG personnel responded. Approximately 5,000 gallons of a diluted mixture of the ECB was lost from secondary containment at the Ford facility and discharged to a storm sewer. The storm sewer discharges to Lake Erie at Miller Park in Avon Lake, Ohio. Shoreline inspection found approximately 1,000 feet of shoreline and retaining wall stained with the ECB. No easily publicly accessible areas have been affected. USCG assumed the lead for the immediate response. Ford Motor mobilized contracting resources to secure the release by recovering of all free product released into the secondary containment, storm sewer and Lake Erie; and cleaning up the affected storm sewer and shoreline along Lake Erie. Securing the release is expected to last two days. The timeframe for cleanup is unknown at this time.

Contact: James Justice, On-Scene Coordinator, (440) 250-1744

Staining of Shoreline with ECB Outfall to Lake Erie with Staining Last Collection Point
Before Outfall to Lake Erie

Press Interest Detail:

UPDATED: Cleanup crews address Ford plant chemical spill into Lake Erie

By Brad Dicken June 26, 2017 The Chronicle-Telegram

<http://www.chroniclet.com/Local-News/2017/06/26/Spill-into-Lake-Erie.html>

AVON LAKE — A spill of a chemical paint primer from Ford Motor Co.'s Ohio Assembly Plant has been flowing into Lake Erie at Miller Road Park since Saturday.

Avon Lake Assistant Fire Chief Jeff Moore said today that the leak of e-coat, an electrically-charged paint primer used to prevent corrosion, isn't considered overly toxic to humans and isn't a water pollutant. He said the material would be irritating if it were to come into contact with human skin.

Moore said at this point the chemical spill isn't considered a health hazard to humans because there is no public beach at Miller Road Park. He said the city's water plant has been notified to monitor its water intake, but he doesn't expect that to be a problem because the water at the area tends to flow west, while the water plant is to the east of the spill.

He said the spill was detected by the plant on Saturday afternoon, but workers didn't realize until late Saturday or early Sunday that it was flowing into the lake.

"They thought it was all contained in the plant," he said.

He said Ford began efforts to contain and clean-up the water-soluble solution on Sunday. He said because of the choppy waters off the park absorbent booms couldn't be used to collect the chemical.

Instead, he said, cleanup workers began collecting as much of the flow as they could at various points along a storm water sewer line, including at Miller Road Park, along Walker Road and inside the plant.

The system containing the chemical was being drained as the plant prepared for a planned shutdown when the spill occurred, Moore he said.

Mike Settles, a spokesman for the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency said about 5,000 gallons of the chemical, composed of three parts deionized water and one part e-coat, discharged from a 50,000-gallon holding tank on Ford's property because of a valve failure.

He said an unknown quantity of the chemical made it into the lake, but the rest was being collected along the storm sewer. He said an estimated 60,000 gallons of water has been collected for treatment and disposal.

Settles also estimated that the cleanup could take several days to be completed.

Moore said crews are trying to get as much of the work done as possible before rains arrive this afternoon.

"Our concern is how much can they get before the rains come," he said.

Fishermen Tracy Johnson of Cleveland and Keith McKenney of Bedford said they were still worried about the impact of the spill as they stood in the spray on a fishing pier at the park this morning fishing rods in hand.

"It's bad enough, we don't need this," Johnson said. "It's our lake, we've just got to treat her like she's supposed to be treated."

Avon Lake Mayor Greg Zilka said after a briefing with representatives of the company, environmental officials and others that Ford is working to contain and mitigate the damage.

"We have great faith that Ford is on top of it and the Coast Guard is monitoring it as is the city of Avon Lake," he said.

A Ford representative at the scene referred questions to a corporate spokeswoman, who has not yet responded to a request for comment.

Chemical at Ford plant in Avon Lake released into storm sewer, Lake Erie

By Jen Steer June 26, 2017 Fox 8 Cleveland

<http://fox8.com/2017/06/26/chemical-at-ford-plant-in-avon-lake-released-into-storm-sewer-lake-erie/>

AVON LAKE, Ohio-- As much as 5,000 gallons of a rust proofing material was released at the Ford Motor Company and into the storm sewer.

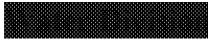
The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency learned of the leak at the plant on Miller Road in Avon Lake late Sunday. The chemical was stored in a 50,000-gallon tank. The EPA said a valve failure is to blame, but the leak was stopped.

The material, made up of deionized water and E-coat, traveled through the storm sewer and an unknown amount ended up in Lake Erie. According to the EPA, the substance appears to be contained in a little bay in the lake, thanks to north winds.

Three crews have vacuumed about 60,000 gallons of the rust proofing material and storm water. That liquid will go to Chemtron Corporation for disposal. The U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. EPA are also at the scene.

The Ohio EPA said there are no known concerns with drinking water, and no known impacts to fish or wildlife.

Cleanup could take several days.



EPA and Ohio EPA Approve Modification to the City of Youngstown's Long-Term Control Plan

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Contact: Brian Lenell, 3-4891, Water Enf & Comp Assurance
Barbara Vantil, 6-3164, Water Enf & Comp Assurance
Newton Ellens, 3-5562, Water Enf & Comp Assurance

Meeting of Chicago Area Waterways System (CAWS) Stakeholder Group on Recreational Risk Communication
Date: 6/29/2017

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

[PAGE * MERGEFORMAT]

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Contact: Aaron Johnson, 6-6845, Water Quality
Linda Holst, 6-6758, Division Front Office
Janet Pellegrini, 6-4298, NPDES Programs
Candice Bauer, 3-2106, NPDES Programs
David Pfeifer, 3-9024, Water Quality
